

**AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT**  
Department of Psychology  
**The Master's Programs in Clinical Psychology**  
**(2023-24)**

**The Faculty:**

Chairperson: Dr. Arne Dietrich

Coordinator: Dr Ghena Ismail (Fall) and Dr Tania Bosqui (Spring)

Assistant Professors: Drs. Ghena Ismail, Mona Ayoub, Sabine Saade, Sarine Hagopian,  
Tania Bosqui, Vivienne Badaan

Lecturer: Drs. Jennifer Fisher, May Awaida

**About the Program:**

The Department of Psychology offers a Masters Program in Clinical Psychology. The Program Learning Outcomes are to:

- 1) Deepen the comprehensive knowledge of clinical psychology's core content domains including research methods, quantitative methods, psychopathology, clinical interventions, assessment and diagnosis, psychopharmacology and ethics.
- 2) Demonstrate competence in applying theory to clinical case material.
- 3) Employ socio-cultural factors in the scientific inquiry within clinical psychology and commit to values that respect diversity.
- 4) Behave in accordance with the ethical standards of the discipline while deepening awareness of the self and interpersonal effectiveness.
- 5) Express ideas effectively, orally and in writing, adhering to APA guidelines.
- 6) Commit to continuous learning and self-reflection in the context of professional work.

**MA in Clinical Psychology**

**Mission Statement**

The mission of the Master's Program in Clinical Psychology is to educate and train graduate students in the science and the practice of clinical psychology. Following the scientist-practitioner model, students will be prepared for doctoral study in clinical psychology or competent, ethical, and socially responsible professional practice. In realizing its mission, the Master's Program in Clinical Psychology is committed to the following goals and objectives: to provide education and training in the scientific and professional foundations of the field of clinical psychology; to provide education and training for consideration of cultural diversity in the science and practice of clinical psychology; and to provide education and training in the ethics of research and professional practice.

A candidate for the MA degree in Clinical Psychology is required to complete thirty graduate credit hours in coursework, in addition to six credit hours of Clinical Practicum and six credit hours of thesis (thesis-track) or clinical project (clinical/non-thesis track),

for a total of forty-two credits. The option for thesis-track is dependent on faculty capacity and will be reviewed yearly. Currently only the non-thesis track is available.

Clinical MA students will follow the following stream of courses:

### **Clinical Psychology Stream**

PSYC 301, PSYC302, PSYC 305, PSYC 350, PSYC 352, PSYC 354, PSYC 356, PSYC 358, PSYC 360, PSYC 366, PSYC 362A/B, PSYC 364A/B in addition to the Comprehensive Exam, PSYC 395 and either Thesis CPSY 399 or non-thesis clinical project CPSY 398

### **Financing and Graduate Assistantship:**

#### *Graduate Assistantships*

Assistantships covering tuition are available for students at the graduate level in return for a specified number of hours of work each week for the Department of Psychology. Number of hours varies depending on whether the assistantship is half-time or full-time. A full-time graduate assistantship in the Clinical program requires 12 hours of work. Assistantships are made on the dual basis of academic record and departmental needs. Application forms for new students are within the admissions application package. Continuing students may obtain application forms from the Office of the Dean of the faculty in which they are enrolled and submit them early in the semester preceding the semester for which they are applying.

After being accepted as a Graduate Assistant (GA), each student is assigned by the department to one or more faculty members of the Department of Psychology. The GA will be expected to engage in research-related, teaching-related and/or administrative tasks assigned by the faculty member. Acceptance of a graduate assistantship **does not** ensure yearly renewal. Renewal will be based on the performance of the graduate student, based upon the student's professionalism, work ethic, academic progress and productivity. Failing a course and being placed on probation will result in the loss of the GAship. Graduate student performance will be evaluated at the end of each semester by the faculty member(s) whom the student is assisting. These evaluations will be shared with the GA in both oral and written form.

#### *Work Study Program*

As part of its financial aid program, the University provides full-time undergraduate and graduate students the opportunity to participate in the *Work Study Program*. Students contribute toward their educational expenses while developing job skills in various campus offices and the Medical Center. Application forms are available at the *Office for Students Affairs* and should be made early in the semester. Placement is made on the basis of capability, need, and job availability. Students may work a maximum of twenty hours per week; the hourly rate is based on the type of work performed.

### **Probation and Dismissal**

A student working for a master's degree may be placed on academic probation by the faculty Graduate Committee. A graduate student is placed on academic probation if s/he:

- is admitted to graduate study on probation,
- fails in any course taken for graduate credit, or
- does not maintain the cumulative average of 80%

The department or program in which the student is enrolled may recommend probation even though the student may have attained an adequate cumulative average. The probation of a master's student may be removed through action of the appropriate faculty committee and if both of the following conditions are satisfied:

- The student has completed a minimum of nine credits of graduate level courses within the two consecutive semesters after being placed on probation, has passed all courses, and has obtained the 80% cumulative average. If the student fails to meet any of these conditions, s/he will be dropped from the program.
- The department or program in which the student is studying recommends removal of probation.

The faculty graduate committee may discontinue a master's student graduate study if:

- Probation status is not removed within a period of two semesters in which the courses that are taken are for credit, or
- In the opinion of the department or program, and irrespective of the grades obtained, the work of the student is deemed unsatisfactory, or
- The student fails the comprehensive examination twice, or fails the thesis defense twice.

### **Academic Dishonesty**

As per the graduate catalogue, "plagiarism, falsification of data, cheating and other forms of academic dishonesty are serious violations of academic integrity" (p. 47) and are subject to disciplinary action. In cases where such violations are suspected by a faculty member, a formal meeting will take place between that faculty member and the student, giving the student the opportunity to present his/her position on the matter. If an academic violation is still suspected, the faculty member is required to convey this information to the Department Chairperson and consult the University Disciplinary Committee. The Disciplinary Committee will then conduct an independent investigation of the case, with disciplinary action ranging from a Dean's warning to dismissal from the program.

### **Departmental Services**

Computer lab, experimental lab, study room, library access

### **Contact Emails**

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